

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1937.

To the Old Fletton Urban District Council,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1937.

The figures upon which the various Statistics are calculated for the District are as follows :—

Estimated Population 1937	...	...	...	...	...	7726
Estimated Population 1936	...	...	...	...	...	7608
Area of District in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	3029
Number of Inhabited Houses in 1937	...	...	...	...	...	2116
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£37151
Sum represented by 1d. rate	...	...	...	...	...	£137

The industries of the District remain as in previous years, although all of them have experienced a phase of extra activity during the past year. Brick-making remains the greatest of these, but the Engineering Works of the district have extended their scope considerably, and the preparation of canned fruits and vegetables has become a whole year activity instead of a seasonal one.

In addition to these, the manufacture of sauces and fruit drinks, and the manufacture of sugar from sugar beet, which although it is only seasonal, has extended very considerably.

The various employers of labour are all keen on carrying out their business in an efficient manner, and employ modern methods and machinery. They provide facilities for the treatment of any accident or illness during working hours, and also for recreation.

Vital Statistics.

LIVE BIRTHS.	1937		1936	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Legitimate	61	58	65	55
Illegitimate	5	2	2	3
	126		125	
STILL BIRTHS	Male	Female	Male	Female
Legitimate	3	0	5	3
Illegitimate	0	0	0	0
	3		8	
DEATHS	Male	Female	Male	Female
	49	45	36	34
	94		70	

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.

Legitimate—95.2	Illegitimate—0	Total	...	...	95.2
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	1

COMPARISON WITH VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1936

	1937	1936
Birth Rate	16.3	16.4
Death Rate	13.12	9.93
(Amended by Comparability factors supplied by the Ministry of Health)		
Infant Mortality	95.2	40.0
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	12	5

COMPARISON WITH THE REST OF THE COUNTRY FOR 1937.

	<i>Live Births.</i>	<i>Still Births.</i>	<i>Death Rate.</i>	<i>Infant Mortality.</i>
Fletton	16.3	0.38	13.12	95.2
London (Administrative County)	13.4	0.54	12.3	60.0
125 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	14.9	0.67	12.5	62.0
148 Smaller Towns	15.3	0.64	11.9	55.0
England and Wales	14.9	0.60	12.4	58.0

The above figures shew that the Birth Rate and Death Rate in Fletton is very near to the Rest of the Country.

The deaths of Infants under 1 year is this year unfortunately over 90 per 1000 Live Births, but when one considers that included in this are 2 Sets of Premature Twins, the figure is not so bad as it would appear at first sight.

It is gratifying to be able to report that no case of Puerperal Fever has occurred in the District, nor has there been any Maternal Death as the result of Child Birth.

Causes of Infant Mortality.

Congenital Debility and Premature Birth	7
Gastro Enteritis	2
Broncho Pneumonia	1
Accidental Asphyxia	1
Debility following Whitlow	1

12

Number of Deaths at all Ages and Causes with Comparison for 1936.

	Male	1937 Female	1937 Total	1936 Total
Diphtheria	1	1	2	1
Influenza	0	1	1	0
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	2	3	3
Other Tubercular Diseases ...	0	1	1	1
Cancer (Malignant Disease) ...	5	6	11	16
Diabetes	1	2	3	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage	3	1	4	1
Heart Disease	10	9	19	20
Other Circulatory Diseases ...	2	4	6	5
Bronchitis	1	2	3	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	2	5	3
Peptic Ulcer	2	0	2	1
Appendicitis	1	1	2	0
Cirrhosis of the Liver	0	1	1	0
Other Digestive Diseases	2	0	2	0
Nephritis	1	1	2	2
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0	0	0
Other Puerperal Diseases	0	0	0	0
Congenital Debility	4	5	9	3
Senility	2	0	2	3
Deaths from Violence	5	1	6	4
Other Defined Diseases	3	5	8	2
Ill Defined or not known	1	0	1	1
	48	45	93	70

Notifiable Diseases.

							1937	1936
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	9
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	11
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3

Towards the end of the year, a rather serious outbreak of Diphtheria occurred in the district, and after consultation, it was decided to offer facilities for inoculation with alum precipitated toxin to any person who wished it. There was a gratifying response, especially amongst the children, practically all of whom were inoculated.

Apart from this, no outstanding outbreak of Zymotic Disease was noted.

Cases of Tuberculosis were fewer this year, and the treatment of these was carried out by the Tuberculosis Officer and his staff.

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1937.

<i>Ages under</i>	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	
	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
0								
1								
5								
10			1					
15								
20								
25								1
35		2						
45		1				1		
55						1		
65 and upwards	1				1			
TOTAL	1	3	1		1	2		1

HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA.

The treatment of Zymotic Diseases continues as in the previous year at Huntingdon. Now that the scheme has had time to settle down, it has been found to be most effective. One cannot help but complement the Isolation Authorities on the expeditious and helpful way they collect and receive cases from this Area.

As in the past, a daily bulletin is posted at the Council Offices regarding the state of any patient in Huntingdon Isolation Hospital.

The treatment and care of cases of Tuberculosis is under the guidance of the Tuberculosis Officer and his Staff, and a Clinic is held weekly in the Council Buildings at Fletton. Cases requiring special attention either Institutional, Surgical or Orthopaedic, are sent to suitable centres for the particular treatment they require. Any doubtful case is carefully watched and kept under observation, until such time as a definite decision can be arrived at.

The bulk of the General Hospital Service in the district is carried out at Peterborough Memorial Hospital by the Honourary Staff. In-patient and Out-patient facilities are available for general medical or surgical cases, and in addition the services of an Orthopaedic Surgeon, Dental Surgeon, Ophthalmologist, Ear Nose and Throat Surgeon and Radiologist are available.

The Fracture Clinic also continues to do excellent work.

There is also a full time Pathologist and a fully equipped Pathological Laboratory.

In connection with the Orthopaedic work, there is an excellently equipped Electrical Department, and two fully qualified masseuses give massage and exercises in suitable cases.

The Orthopaedic work is carried out by the Staff of Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital under the supervision of Dr. Wilson Stewart and Dr. Dockerill.

Perhaps the most outstanding change in the Health Service of the District during the year has been the institution of Ante and Post Natal Service by the County Medical Officer of Health. Under this scheme expectant mothers are examined early in the pregnancy and again at the 32nd week, or at any other time if occasion arises. The examination is carried out by the woman's own doctor, who may avail himself of specialised advice if he thinks the case demands it.

The post natal examination is also carried out by the patient's own doctor, and is really quite as important as the Ante Natal, as many minor defects can be noted and remedied by this routine examination.

The institution of this Service has naturally diminished the attendance at the Ante Natal Clinic carried on by the Fletton Welfare Association, but this Clinic still carries on, and much valuable work is put in in demonstrating and explaining to mothers the more practical side of motherhood.

Maternity cases in unsuitable surroundings are afforded the opportunity of Institutional treatment at Huntingdon. Provision is made in Peterborough Memorial Hospital for the reception of complicated cases of labour.

The Infant Welfare work is still carried out by the Fletton and Stanground Infant Welfare Association at their Clinic in London Road. The Infant Welfare Clinic meet every Tuesday from 2 to 4 p.m. There is a Toddler's Clinic for children from 2 to 5, which meets once a month on the first Thursday from 3 to 4 p.m. These 2 Services provide for the supervision of a child's health from birth until the time that it goes under the care of the School Medical Officer.

The supervision of the health and examination of school children in the district is carried on by the School Medical Officer, Dr. Moss-Blundell and his staff. Apart from routine examination, facilities are available for Dental treatment, and Ophthalmologic and Orthopaedic treatment.

Venereal Diseases are treated by Dr. Rolleston at the Peterborough Clinic. Patients may be treated privately by arrangement.

Ambulances.

The Ambulance Service remains as before. Modern up-to-date Ambulances for the use of accident and non-infectious cases are available at Peterborough and the London Brick Company.

Huntingdon Isolation Hospital also provide Ambulances for the removal of infectious cases.

District Nursing.

The Fletton, Woodston and Stanground Nursing Association is in charge of the District Nursing. They employ 2 fully qualified nurses, both of whom are certified midwives. Apart from general district nursing, they also attend the great proportion of the maternity cases in the district. They also assist in the work of the Infant Welfare, Toddler's and Ante Natal Clinics, and under the supervision of the County Council, they act as Health Visitors.

During the year, the subscription of the Nursing Association was raised to 6/- per annum, in order to be on a level with the other Associations in the County, but this has not been responsible for any falling off in the number of members.

Housing.

In connection with Housing in the district, the Ministry of Health's over crowding Survey "B" (measured survey) was completed and submitted to the Ministry in September 1937. As a result of this Survey, it was found that the following cases of over crowding were noted.

Fletton	...	...	...	...	1
Stanground	...	...	...	...	27 (including 21 caravans).
Woodston	...	...	...	...	0
Council Houses	...	...	...	...	4

To deal with this, a report has been drawn up for submission to the Council and to the Ministry of Health.

It proposes the provision of houses for the abatement of this overcrowding, and for the erection of small dwellings for aged persons.

It recommends the provision of 6 parlour type houses with 4 bedrooms, 6 parlour type houses with 3 bedrooms, and 12 non-parlour type houses with 3 bedrooms, and 12 Bungalows with 1 bedroom, for aged persons.

Under the Housing Acts of 1930 and 1936, during the year 19 houses have been made fit as the result of informal notices, preliminary to formal notice under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1930.

3 Licences were issued in respect of over crowding, these cases being in council houses, but in 2 cases this has since been abated.

I attach the report of the Sanitary Inspector Mr. H. W. Hawkins. To him and to Mr. Clarke, I wish to express my appreciation for their valuable help and co-operation during the year.

I have the honour to remain,

Yours obediently,

JOHN E. ALLAN,
M.B., Ch.B. D.P.H.

71 LONDON ROAD,
PETERBOROUGH,
June, 1938.

To the Old Fletton Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to hand you a report of the Sanitary Work carried out in the District for the year ending December, 1937.

Notices served as to nuisances :—

Informal	...	...	...	16
Statutory	...	...	...	4

Sewers and Sewerage Works.—The existing sewers are working satisfactorily, except in time of storm, when they surcharge and overflow at several points. This I trust will be remedied when the new outfall sewer is completed. A sewer is urgently needed at Whittlesey Road ; difficulty is experienced with the cesspools built for the new houses. The pumping plant has worked well.

Housing.—Forty-nine (49) houses were erected by private enterprise ; building appears to have slackened down, and it would appear there is no great demand except for the small houses. The Council had a scheme prepared for 24 cottages and 12 aged people's bungalows, but this was deferred pending data showing demand for same.

Scavenging.—The household refuse is collected weekly throughout the District by the Council. Notice having been given by the Brick Company to discontinue tipping in the knot-hole, fresh arrangement will have to be made namely either by destructor or controlled tipping.

Bakehouses and Slaughterhouses.—The bakehouses and slaughterhouses are in good order and well conducted.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—The dairies and cowsheds in the district are not all that could be desired, not being constructed to modern standard, but they are kept reasonably clean and very few complaints have been received.

Water Supply.—The water supply is ample and satisfactory.

Disinfection.—All cases of infectious disease reported by the Medical Officer of Health have received attention, rather more cases than usual were experienced owing to a good deal of diphtheria existing in the District.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

H. W. HAWKINS, A.R.S.I.

INFANT WELFARE REPORT.

For the Year ending 31st December, 1937.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting to you the 22nd Annual Report of the Fletton Infant Welfare Centre.

The Statistics for comparison with those of the previous year are :—

						1937	1936
No. of New Cases	...	...	...	...	...	146	139
No. of Sessions	...	...	...	...	...	48	48
No. of Attendances	...	...	...	...	...	2498	2087
No. on Register	...	...	...	...	...	266	218

Age Groups of New Children.

Under 3 months	...	...	...	...	...	...	106
Over 3 months and under 12 months			...	...	...	...	28
Over 12 months	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	...	...	146

No. of New Children Breast-Fed only	...	...	...	...	...	81
No. of Children Breast-Fed and Artificially Fed	...	...	...	...	...	2
No. of Children Artificially Fed only	...	...	...	...	...	63
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	...	146

Of the 146 new children attending, 129 were healthy.

On examination of the children during the year, the following ailments and defects were found and advice as to treatment given.

Summary.

1. Diseases of Respiratory Organs	6. Diseases of the Skin.
Bronchial Catarrh ... 8	Impetigo ... 2
Bronchitis ... 5	Ringworm ... 1
Pneumonia ... 1	Dermatitis ... 9
2. Diseases of Alimentary Canal.	Urticaria ... 7
Constipation ... 14	Scalding ... 7
Indigestion ... 10	Boil ... 1
Gastro Enteritis ... 11	7. Congenital Defects.
Diarrhoea ... 5	Phimosis ... 53
Worms (Thread) ... 1	Tongue Tied ... 5
Worms (Round) ... 1	Umbilical Hernia ... 3
3. Diseases of the Mouth.	Hydrocele ... 3
Stomatitis ... 2	Naevus ... 1
Thrush ... 35	8. Other Diseases.
Pharyngitis ... 4	Chill ... 5
Catarrh of Throat ... 2	Anaemia ... 3
4. Diseases of the Ear.	Rickets ... 5
Otitis Media ... 2	Septic Toe ... 1
5. Diseases of the Eye.	
Conjunctivitis ... 2	
Stye ... 1	
	TOTAL ... 219

Vital Statistics.

	Year	1937	1936
No. of Births : Males	...	66	67
Females	...	60	58
Total	...	126	125
No. of Deaths under 1 Year	...	12	5
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	16.3	16.4
Infant Mortality	...	95.2	40.0
Deaths of Infants under 1 Year due to :—			
Congenital Debility and Premature Birth	7
Gastro Enteritis	2
Broncho Pneumonia	1
Accidental Asphyxia	1
Debility following Whitlow	1
			12

During 1937, the number of children attending the Centre increased a little, and correspondingly the total number of attendances was greater.

As in past years, it was found that the great proportion of the children attending for the first time were healthy, and in these the standard of physical development and intelligence was above the average.

In the course of inspection of the children, defects and ailments were found, but none of these were of a serious nature. All were of a minor character and yielded readily to treatment.

Amongst the new admissions, 81 out of 146 were entirely breast-fed. This is a higher average than one expects, and is a matter for favourable comment.

From the figures it will be seen that there appears to be an alarming increase in the Infant Mortality for the year. This is accounted for by the fact that during the year there occurred 2 sets of premature twins which only survived a few days. Apart from this, the causes of Infant Mortality are those which one expects to find, and not to any undue proportion.

Toddler's Clinic.

						1937	1936
Total Attendances	...	...	...	...	...	177	303
No. of Sessions	...	...	...	...	...	12	12
No. on Register	...	...	...	...	...	57	76

The figures for the Toddler's Clinic are somewhat below the level of the past 2 years, but this is to be expected as the result of the low Birth Rate of the previous years.

Of the new children examined at the Clinic, many were found to be suffering from minor ailments, the more noticeable being Urticaria, Anaemia and Phimosis. Besides these ailments, many children were examined on account of transient loss of weight, but in nearly every case no physical defect or diseased condition was found, and all of them responded to the advice given.

Urticaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Anaemia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dermatitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Phimosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Oxyuriasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Enuresis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Adenoids	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Otitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12

Ante Natal Clinic.

						1937	1936
Total Attendances	...	...	...	...	...	61	120
No. of Sessions	...	...	...	...	...	12	12
No. on Register	...	...	...	...	...	28	48

At first sight there would appear to be an alarming decline in Ante Natal work in the district, but this decrease in numbers at the Clinic is the result of the Ante Natal Scheme sponsored by the Hunts. County Council, whereby it is now possible for a woman to have Ante Natal examination and care at her own home.

The value of Ante Natal work cannot be over stressed, and the beneficial results derived from it are apparent to anyone who is in touch with Maternity and Child Welfare work.

It is again a pleasure to be allowed to offer my gratitude and thanks to our band of Voluntary workers, without whose services so ungrudgingly given and unobtrusively rendered, it would be impossible for the work of the Infant Welfare Centre to remain at its present high standard.

I have the honour to remain,

Yours obediently,

JOHN E. ALLAN,

M.B., Ch.B. D.P.H.

Old Fletton Urban District Council.

HOUSING STATISTICS—YEAR ENDING 31st. DECEMBER 1937.

In order that the particulars asked for may be accurately given the several heads should be read through as a whole before the form is filled up, and care should be taken to avoid duplication; for example, a house remedied twice during the year should be counted once only.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	584
	(b)	Number of inspections made for purpose	38
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	NIL
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	NIL
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	NIL
(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	NIL

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	NIL
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:

A.—Proceedings under sections 17, 18, and 23 of the Housing Act 1930.

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	2
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after services of formal notices	2
	(a) by owners	2
	(b) by local authority in default of owners	NIL

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	NIL
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	NIL
	(a) by owners	NIL
	(b) by local authority in default of owners	NIL

C.—Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act 1930.

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition orders were made	NIL
(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition orders	NIL

D.—Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act 1930.

- | | | |
|-----|--|-----|
| (1) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | NIL |
| (2) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit | NIL |

E.—Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Act 1925.

- | | | |
|-----|--|-----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices became operative requiring repairs | NIL |
| (2) | Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices — | |
| (a) | by owners | NIL |
| (b) | by local authority in default of owners | NIL |
| (3) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close. | NIL |

F.—Proceedings under sections 11, 14, and 15 of the Housing Act 1925.

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative | NIL |
| (2) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the dwelling houses having been rendered fit | NIL |
| (3) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders became operative — | |
| (4) | Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | NIL |

NOTE—Section 3 and Sections 11 to 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 have been repealed by the Housing Act of 1930, but the proviso to Section 64 of the Act of 1930 continues in force any Notices Closing Orders and Demolition Orders made before the operation of the Act (15th. August 1930) and houses subject to these notices and orders must continue to be dealt with under the relative provisions of the Act of 1925.

Signed

John E. Allen M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(Clerk to the Local Authority or
Medical Officer of Health

Date May, 1938.